March 15./81

PLACE STAMP HERE

Mr. Fensterwald,

if your compliments about my intelligence is sincere, then give me the credit for figuring out this much: if you do not believe in me you won't dirty yourself to represent me. So, I realize that I have to offer something that you want (not money or fame in this case) — my signature. This is the reason you sent the book - to make me feel that I have to prove something. I do not feel the need to peddle myself door-to-door.

I have been striped down to practically nothing. maybe I would like to keep some "mystery" just for myself. What I want done an ordinary attorney probably will do fine — and if not c'est la vie". I do not want to waste my life searching for approval.

M. Porter.

98.110 Mount Fuji, Japanese painting, Edo period, Ukiyo-e school, by Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849). Ink and color on silk. 36.2 × 51 cm. (14¼ in. × 20 1/16 in.).
FREER GALLERY OF ART
Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560

March 15. 1981.

Dearest Mary,

in my pathetic situation, I feel like a blind kitten, searching around in hopes of some kind of result to end this viscious circle. I hope, that you understand how uncomfortable the position of the beggar can be. Entrusting your life in everyone hands with hopes of their sincerety, is very comprimising. sometimes. I honestly had such hopes in Mr. Feuerwald! — believing that his motives were pure.

It was so exciting to meet you: your enthusiasm and honesty overshadowed almost everything that was going around me.

It was only after I was alone with my own inner feelings, tha I was able to sort out some things in the right perspective. I'm sincerely sorry, that things did not work the way I hoped they would. I really, really liked you and Buck very much — and still do. But not everyone around you are as good and sincere, as you are. I'm truly sorry, that I am a disappointment to you.

But, as you know, my situation is very touchy; maybe I'm playing with fire or even with ~~it~~ a ticking bomb." So, maybe", knowing this you will understand my cautious steps. Sincerely wishing you and Buck good health, good spirit and lots of victories in life, It was a rewarding experience ~~mit~~ meeting with you.

Love, Martha Rattner.

BUTTERFLY AND MALLOW
From an album of sketches
Japanese, Edo period, Kanō school
by Kanō Tanyū (1602–1674)
Freer Gallery of Art
Smithsonian Institution Washington, D.C. (04.119r)

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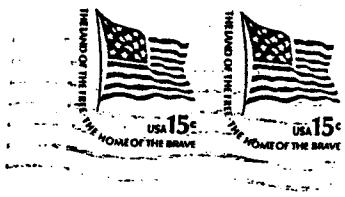

Mrs. Mary Ferrell
4406 Holland avenue.
Dallas. TX. 75219.

Mr. Fensterwald,

Hopefully, the nightmare of being part of your "elite" club meeting, is over.

Your social status, your financial superiority, a few beers, a pastrami sandwich and the cost of the trip to Waco (via Dallas) are not sufficient enough to buy full control of my life. After the snobbish treatment my dear and trustworthy friends and I got during our meeting, I seriously reconsidered my legal involvement with you.

Yes, even beggars can be choosey. Now it's a matter of who's is trusting whom.

The letter, which you received from Harold Weinberg, with promises of getting "garbage" from the archives with no difficulties and advising against exumation, was alarming enough and quite suggestive of which way you might go. Your warning about the danger for my friends and my life must be taken into consideration. Your advice to rip everything ~~[illegible]~~ secret, with charade of people passing by during our meeting ~~[illegible]~~ sure didn't seem secretive - entirely opposite. ["Come and see the new addition to our collection," "Dummy on display - cheap admission."]

I simply don't want to jeopardize my life choosing you to represent me. If you are smart as they give you credit for, you will know what I'm talking about. Maybe you just a brilliant paper lawer without compassion and only interested in profit/whatever this might be).

RATS.

Then I am wasting my time. And the bottom line is - by no means do I want you to represent me.

M. Porter.

P.S. Have to admit, what a beautiful set-up it was. I almost fell for it - thank God for my intuition. (You can laugh at this).

Options

2-Briefs
3 to 4 weeks probably

1. Quick Appeal - R. Oswald v. Eddowes
   - file amicus brief

2. Jury trial - if lose appeal - 2 months away -
   - Oswald v. Eddowes
   - you would be witness

3. Approach Fowler (Robert's Atty)
   a) we will proceed w/ Exhumation or
   b) we will bring injunction suit
   - work out a settlement = quiet exhumation

conflict of McKenzie

4. Proceed w/ Exhumation - Petty.
   - be sued or
   - Maybe not - conflict of McKenzie

5. Intervene in Oswald v Eddowes if jury trial

6. Bring suit ag. Robert Oswald to enjoin him from stopping exhumation
   - not attractive alternative -